

STATE OF MARYLAND
MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
Shari T. Wilson, Secretary

BILL NO: House Bill 73

COMMITTEE: Environmental Matters

POSITION: Support

TITLE: Environment–Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund–Use of Funds

BILL ANALYSIS:

This bill will authorize the use of the Maryland Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund to provide assistance in the form of forgiveness of principal or other forms of financial assistance, as authorized or required by federal law.

POSITION AND RATIONALE:

MDE supports HB 73 since the legislation will allow the Maryland Water Quality Financing Administration to provide additional subsidies in the form of loan principal forgiveness and other forms of financial assistance for water quality capital projects under the Maryland Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund. A similar provision is already permitted under the Maryland Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund.

Section 9-1605 of the Environment Article, which governs the use of the Maryland Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund, presently, does not permit the funds to be used for loan principal forgiveness (except for one-time federal stimulus funding). This bill amends those sections of the Environment Article to permit this additional use (or forms allowed by federal law) for the Maryland Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund consistent with the FFY 2010 federal appropriation act. If this change does not occur the State will not be able to utilize the \$49 million federal funds coming to Maryland for the aforementioned grants and loans.

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
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